



www.bransonmo.gov

CITY OF BRANSON

110 W. Maddux

Branson, MO 65616

417-334-3345

Public Information Department

jadams@bransonmo.gov

NEWS RELEASE

September 28, 2011

CONTACT: Jerry Adams, public information director, 417-337-4913

Action taken by Branson Board of Aldermen at September 27, 2011 meeting

CONSENT AGENDA - SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE BILLS

Approval given for new marquee sign at RecPlex

A South Dakota company, Daktronics Inc, received the bid to construct a marquee sign with reader board in front of the Branson RecPlex on Branson Hills Parkway. The marquee display will serve two purposes: better advertise the location of the RecPlex and Skaggs Fitness Center, which is located in the RecPlex; and display upcoming events or general information. The bid was \$26,012, which will be split 50/50 between the city and Skaggs.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS (1st Readings and public hearing)

Approval given for new aldermanic wards due to 2010 census

As a result of Branson's population increasing to 10,520 based on the 2010 census, the city had to redraw its boundaries for the three aldermanic wards. Aldermen approved on first reading the recommended changes that include (A) transferring the portion of Ward 3 east of Highway 65 along the lakefront into Ward 2; (B) transferring a small area of Ward 3 along Bar Harbor Road to Ward 2; and (C) transferring the area near the Commerce Park development from Ward 1 to Ward 2.

Board extends lease agreement with Southwest Missouri Office on Aging at the Community Center

First reading approval given to continue allowing the Southwest Missouri Office on Aging to lease the Branson Community Center for senior activities and lunch programs. Office on Aging will pay \$250 monthly to the city. Lease goes through December 31, 2012.

New street to be built at Highway 65 off-ramp and Main Street

Aldermen approved an agreement with MoDOT for a new street called Loyd Road, which will be a new north leg of the Highway 65 off-ramp at the Main Street intersection. A new CVS Drug Store is proposed for that intersection, and the developers of the drug store will pay for these improvements. The proposed Loyd Road will extend from Main Street at the northbound 65 off-ramp to West Atlantic. In addition, 6th Street will no longer connect to Main Street from the north, and traffic will utilize the safer alternative of the signals at 65 and Main. There will be many more steps the developer will have to take in order for this development to happen.

Board approves intergovernmental agreement with Taney County for police communication equipment

Taney County has applied for a federal grant on behalf of both the Branson Police Department and Taney County Sheriff's Office totaling \$12,592. Branson police would receive half of the money to purchase a computerized information sharing interface with the Taney County Prosecutor's Office.

Branson police and fire departments to obtain new information technology

Aldermen approved contracts with two computer companies to purchase mobile software for the fire department and web crime mapping for the police department. Total cost is \$11,855. With this software:

- The fire department will have the ability to receive calls by mobile computer along with mapping features in responding to emergencies.
- The police department can add a web mapping interface, which will be tied to the city's website and provide maps of current and past crime locations...
- Police department can link computer fingerprinting to the state, and a feature notifying the fire department by text messaging of dispatched fire calls.

Board approves Resolution that states impact of biosolids project on sewer user fees

Branson is one of several cities participating in the development of a regional biosolids dewatering and drying facility to reduce the amount of sludge produced by wastewater plants. The Missouri Department of Natural resources is providing funding for the design and construction of the biosolids project, but the operation and maintenance of the facility is to be paid by participating cities. DNR requires cities to state the anticipated impact on its current sewer user rate. While the annual cost to Branson to operate the proposed drying facility is expected to be \$143,000, the city will not have to raise customer sewer rates to cover these costs. The drying facility will convert over 6-million gallons of wastewater sludge annually generated from Branson treatment plants to a dry Class A biosolids material.

Resolution approved for city's 2011 Strategic Plan

Aldermen approved the 2011 Strategic Plan that prioritizes services, programs and policies for the next five years. The plan calls for efficient use of public funds, enhanced community safety for residents and visitors and improvement as a great place to live, work and visit. The plan also improves the city's ability to measure how it is doing and report to the public across the range of services that it delivers to the community. The Strategic Plan will work hand-in-hand with the Community Plan 2030, which comes before the Board for approval later this year.

Aldermen approve special event permit for annual Veterans' Day Parade

The Branson Veterans' Day Parade will take place on Friday, November 11, 11 a.m. in downtown Branson. The route will start at convention center south parking lot, go north on Sycamore, west onto College, north onto Commercial, south onto Branson Landing Boulevard, then west onto Main and south onto Sycamore back to the convention center. However, the route could change depending on the number of parade participants.

(Audio of the entire Board of Aldermen meeting can be accessed by going to www.bransonmo.gov and clicking on the "Agenda & Minutes" link in the upper left hand corner of the website.)